

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks. Claims 1-2 are in the application. Claims 3-11 have been canceled.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ryder, and rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Ryder in view of Rivard et al. Applicants respectfully traverse.

According to claim 1 of the present invention, the running surface of the galvanically deposited running layer has a profiling in the form of groove-like recesses that run in the circumference direction, which are distributed over the axial length of the bearing eye. Such structuring is drawn in Fig. 2 of Ryder, but Fig. 2 does not represent the finished work piece, but rather an intermediate product that first has to be machined before it is given its final shape, which is shown in Fig. 3, as is clearly evident from the specification, page 2, left column, lines 7 to 20. Therefore, Ryder describes a method for the

production of a slide bearing having a galvanically deposited running layer, which has a smooth running surface in the shape of a circular cylinder, without any groove-like recesses, which is in contrast to the invention, according to which a running surface having such groove-like recesses is supposed to be produced.

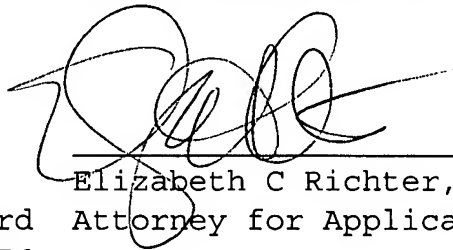
A circular cylinder is formed if a straight line is displaced parallel to itself, along a circle. The generatrix of every cylinder - not only of a circular cylinder - is always a straight line. The inner bearing eye surface 14 provided with circumferential grooves in Fig. 4 of Ryder can therefore not represent a cylinder surface, as is required according to the invention. According to the invention, this cylinder surface must form a cylinder surface not just "essentially," but very precisely, because otherwise, subsequent machining of the galvanically applied running layer becomes necessary, and this is specifically what is supposed to be avoided according to the task to be accomplished.

Accordingly, claim is patentable over Ryder. Combining Ryder with Rivard would not lead to the present invention because

neither references teaches or suggests the bearing eye surface having a circular cylindrical shape and having a coating with groove-like recesses.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. Early allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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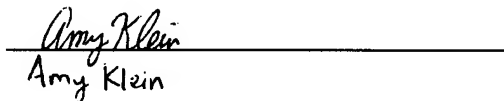


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